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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

BAROT, BHARAT

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/893,888	Applicant(s) VASUDEVAN, ANIL	
	Examiner Bharat N. Barot	Art Unit 2455	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01/08/2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 18-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 18-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

RESPONSE TO AMENDMENT

1. Claims 1-16 and 18-24 remain for further examination.

The new grounds of rejection

2. Applicants' amendments and arguments with respect to claims 1-16 and 18-24 filed on January 08, 2009 have been fully considered but they are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103(a)

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-16 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Takamoto et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,470,391) in view of Dillon (U.S. Patent No. 6,671,741).

5. As to claim 1, Takamoto et al teach a method of transferring data packets between a server environment and a client (abstract, summary of the invention; and figures 1-4 and 12), the method comprising: receiving, at network driver device

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(communication controller), a data packet transmitted from a stack (host) in the server environment; transmitting, by the network driver device, the data packet across an I/O bus in the server environment to the client (figures 1-4 and 12, column 7 line 1 to column 8 line 15, and column 10 lines 8-39).

However, Takamoto et al do not teach that sending, from the network driver device, an acknowledgment packet to the stack without sending the acknowledgment packet across an I/O bus.

Dillon teaches a method of transferring data packets between a server environment and a client (figures 1-2, and columns 4-5), the method comprising sending, from the network driver device (gateway), an acknowledgment packet to the stack (application server) without sending the acknowledgment packet across an I/O bus; and after sending the acknowledgement packet, transmitting, by the network driver device, the data packet across the I/O bus in the server environment to the client (terminal) (figures 12 and 13d, column 14 lines 1-41, and column 14 line to column 15 line 27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Dillon stated above in the method of Takamoto et al for transferring data packets between a server environment and a client because it would have increased the round-trip propagation time, and also reduced the propagation delay by providing fast links.

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6. As to claim 2, Takamoto et al disclose that the data packets comprise TCP/IP data packets (column 2 lines 3-57); Dillon also discloses that the data packets comprise TCP/IP data packets (see abstract, and column 5 lines 4-13).

7. As to claim 3, Dillon teaches that storing information regarding the transmitted data packet in a network interface card (figures 13a-13b, column 14 lines 42-54, and column 16 lines 49-58).

8. As to claim 4, Takamoto et al teach that transmitting the data packet across a network from the server environment to the client (figures 3-4; and column 7 line 37 to column 8 line 15).

9. As to claims 5-7, Takamoto et al teach that the network interface card monitoring acknowledgment packets regarding the data packet from the client/server; recognizing an error condition at the network interface card if the acknowledgment packet regarding the transmitted data packet is not received from the client; and transmitting an indication of the error condition across the I/O bus (figures 12 and 13c-13e, column 14 lines 1-26, column 14 line 55 to column 15 line 46, and column 16 lines 49-58).

10. As to claims 8-14, they are also rejected for the same reasons set forth to rejecting claims 1-7 above, since the claims 8-14 do not teach or define any new limitations than above claims 1-7.

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11. As to claims 15-16 and 18-21, they are also rejected for the same reasons set forth to rejecting claims 1-7 above, since claims 15-16 and 18-21 are merely an apparatus for the method of operation defined in the method claims 1-7.

Additionally, Takamoto et al disclose (claim 15) a server comprising: an operating system having a stack mechanism (host) and a driver mechanism (communication controller); a network interface card (bus/communication interface) comprising a memory storing information related to a data packet; and a I/O bus coupled between the operating system and the network interface card (figures 1, 8, 11, and 23, column 5 line 59 to column 67 line 32, column 8 line 60 to column 9 line 13, column 9 line 47 to column 10 line 7, and column 15 lines 18-35).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(e)

12. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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13. Claims 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Dillon (U.S. Patent No. 6,671,741). Dillon's patent meets all the limitations for claims 22-24 recited in the claimed invention.

14. As to claim 22, Dillon discloses a network interface card (column 16 lines 49-58) comprising: a mechanism (gateway) to communicate across an I/O bus so as to receive data packets (communicate with an application server, figure 12, column 14 lines 1-41); a memory device to store information regarding the received data packets (figures 13a-13b, and column 14 lines 42-54); and a mechanism (gateway) to communicate across a network so as to transmit the received data packets to a remote system and to receive an acknowledgment packet from the remote system across the network (communicate with a remote terminal, figures 1-2 and 13c-13d, column 14 lines 17-41, and column 14 line 55 to column 15 line 46).

15. As to claim 23, Dillon discloses that an error indicating mechanism to recognize an error condition if said acknowledgment packet regarding the data packet transmitted across the network is not received from the remote system (figures 12 and 13c-13e, column 14 lines 1-26, and column 14 line 55 to column 15 line 46).

16. As to claim 24, Dillon discloses that the data packets comprise TCP/IP data packets (see abstract, and column 5 lines 4-13).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered. The examiner has attempted to answer (response) to the remarks (arguments) in the body of the Office action.

Contact Information

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Bharat Barot** whose Telephone Number is **(571) 272-3979**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Most facsimile-transmitted patent application related correspondence is required to be sent to the Central FAX Number **(571) 273-8300**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Saleh Najjar**, can be reached at **(571) 272-4006**.

/Bharat N Barot/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2455

April 06, 2009